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Twin Oaks Estate
1225 West Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44313-7188
www.hahnlaw.com

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Telephone: 330.864.5550
Facsimile: 330.864.7986
Cleveland ▲ Columbus ▲ Akron


FROM:	Stephen L. Grant	Number of Pages:	36
DATE:	10/29/2002	(including this pages)	
SUBJECT:	09/804,406	Client Code:	115699-32
		SEND BY:	Stephen L. Grant

TO: Lashana Tyson Facsimile Number: 703-308-3686

SENDER'S COMMENTS:

TO THE ATTENTION OF LASHANA TYSON GROUP ART 3617

Attached is a copy of the response to the office action dated November 21, 2001 to patent application serial number 09/804,406 per your request.

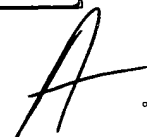

Stephen L. Grant

Our records show that
not all papers were received,
so we are re-faxing
10/30/02

This will be the only form of delivery of transmitted documents. ■

This transmission will also be sent by: ☐ Mail ☐ Messenger ☐ Overnight Delivery

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Practitioner's Docket No. 5699-32

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Forbes, James W.

Application No.: 09/804,406

Group No.: 3617

Filed: 03/12/2001

Examiner: Jules, F.

For: DROPPED DECK CENTER BEAM RAIL ROAD CAR STRUCTURE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.

STATUS

2. Applicant is other than a small entity.

EXTENSION OF TERM

3. The proceedings herein are for a patent application and the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 apply. Applicant petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 (fees: 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(1)-(4)) for two months:

Fee: \$400.00

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.18(a) and 1.10*

(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is *mandatory*;
Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

MAILING

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231
37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

☒ with sufficient postage as first class mail.

37 C.F.R. § 1.10*

G as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"

Mailing Label No. _____ (mandatory)

TRANSMISSION

G facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, (703) _____

Date:

22 April 2002

Signature

Stephen L. Grant

(type or print name of person certifying)

* Only the date of filing (1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (1.10) or facsimile transmission (1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

Amendment Transmittal—page 1 of 2

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FEE FOR CLAIMS

4. The fee for claims (37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)-(d)) has been calculated as shown below:

	(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY			
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDIT. FEE		
TOTAL	58	- 61	= 0	x \$ 18.00	= \$	0.00	
INDEP.	10	- 11	= 0	x \$ 84.00	= \$	0.00	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM				+ \$ 0.00	= \$	0.00	
				TOTAL ADDIT. FEE	\$	0.00	

No additional fee for claims is required.

FEE PAYMENT

5. Attached is a check in the sum of \$400.00.

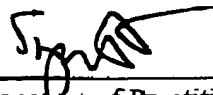
A duplicate of this paper is attached.

FEE DEFICIENCY

6. An additional extension and/or fee is required, charge Account No. 15-0450.

Date: 22 APRIL 2002

Reg. No.: 33,390
Tel. No.: 330-864-5550
Customer No.: 021324



Signature of Practitioner
Stephen L. Grant
Hahn Loeser + Parks LLP
Twin Oaks Estate
1225 West Market Street
Akron, OH 44313-7188

A

Attorney's Docket 5699-32**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Forbes
Ser. No.: 09/804,406
Title: DROPPED DECK CENTER BEAM RAIL ROAD CAR STRUCTURE
Filed: 12 March 2001

Examiner: Jules, F.F.
Art Unit: 3617
Date: 22 April 2002

*Replaced
Haha
it was
messy
#7/c*

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

1) This letter is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action of November 21, 2001, and is filed with a check for a two-month extension of time, which extends the response date to 22 April 2002, since 21 April 2002 was a Sunday.

2) Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 13, 25, 26, 34 and 56, without bias or prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A center beam rail road car comprising:

a deck structure supported on rail car trucks, said deck structure having first and second end portions and a medial portion lying between said first and second end portions, said medial portion being stepped downward relative to said end portions;

a central beam assembly running lengthwise along said rail road car between said [bulkheads] end portions, said beam assembly standing upwardly of said deck structure; and

said medial portion being stepped downward relative to said end portions by a distance of at least 30 inches.

5. (Amended) The center beam rail road car of claim 4 wherein said at least one [posts] post is a hollow four sided tube.

15. (Amended) A center beam rail road car comprising:

A